

REMARKS

Claims 6-9, 20-27 and 41-62 are pending with claims 6, 7, 20, 41 and 52 being independent.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 20-27 and 41-62, and to the indication of claims 6-8 being allowable if rewritten into independent form.

Claims 5 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0028089, to Galley et al, in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0055570, to Ribeiro et al.

To expedite allowance of the application, Applicants have canceled claim 5, rewritten allowable claims 6 and 7 into independent form, and amended claim 9 to depend from claim 6. Applicants reserve the right to file divisional and continuation applications as necessary to pursue the rejected claims 5 and 9 and the withdrawn claims 1-4, 10-19 and 28-40.

Oath/Declaration

The third page of the corrected Declaration filed with the last response on September 27, 2007 was apparently misplaced. A complete copy of the Declaration (3 pages) is attached and is believed to be sufficient to overcome the objection.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and would appreciate early notification of the same.

Serial No.: 10/788,475
Amdt. Dated: February 12, 2008
Reply to Office Action dated December
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46058

Invitation for a telephone interview

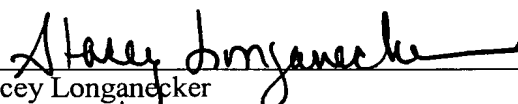
The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 659-9076 if further issues remain with allowance of this case.

Deposit Account Authorization

Although no fee is believed due by submission of this paper, authorization is hereby made to charge any fees due or outstanding, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. **18-2220** (Order No. 46058).

Respectfully Submitted,

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